

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-36 previously cancelled.

Please, amend the previously presented claims as follows:

37. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for raising and lowering a toilet seat assembly with respect to a toilet bowl, the toilet seat assembly having a hinged lid, the apparatus comprising:

clamping means for releasably securing the apparatus to the toilet bowl;

telescoping legs connected between the clamping means and the toilet seat assembly for allowing the toilet seat assembly to be raised and lowered;

means for fixing the legs to support the toilet seat assembly at two or more heights above the toilet bowl, and

a toilet seat lid opening mechanism having a foot lever pivotably connected to the lid for opening thereof, a catch biased to a holding position for holding the lid in one of a plurality rotated attitudes and a foot peddle to release the catch, and wherein the foot lever is slidably received within a collar fixed for movement parallel to a longitudinal axis of the legs.

38. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of Claim 37, wherein said collar is fixed to one of said telescoping legs, the foot lever is slidably received within a sleeve fixed for movement parallel to a longitudinal axis of the legs.

39. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 37, wherein the toilet seat lid opening mechanism further includes a handle adapted to release the catch.

40. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 37, wherein the telescoping legs supporting the toilet seat are power actuated.

41. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 37, wherein the telescoping legs supporting the toilet seat are fluid actuated.

42. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 37, wherein detents are provided for fixing the legs to support the toilet seat at two or more heights above the toilet bowl.

43. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 42, wherein each telescoping leg comprises at least one detent and the apparatus further includes means operable to simultaneously engage and disengage each detent.

44. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 37, further comprising an insert releasably engageable with the seat, the insert being adapted to conform to the internal shape of the bowl.

45. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 44, wherein the insert incorporates concertina sides.

46. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in Claim 37, further including a toilet seat heater.

47. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 46, wherein the toilet seat heater comprises a thermostatically controlled electrical resistance element.

48. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 37, further comprising at least one of:

at least one arm rest;

at least one collapsible arm rest;

a back rest;

a collapsible back rest;

a protective skirt arranged about the telescoping legs; and

a protective skirt arranged about the telescoping legs, the skirt being injection molded from plastic.

49. (Currently Amended) A wheeled chair including an apparatus for raising and lowering a seat assembly with respect to the wheeled chair, the apparatus being attached to the wheeled chair and the wheeled chair having a plurality of wheels arranged about and under the apparatus, the seat assembly having a hinged lid, the apparatus comprising:

telescoping legs connected between the wheeled chair and the toilet seat assembly for allowing the toilet seat assembly to be raised and lowered;

means for fixing the legs to support the toilet seat at two or more heights above the wheeled chair, and

a toilet seat lid opening mechanism having a foot lever pivotably connected to the lid for opening thereof, a catch biased to a holding position for holding the lid in one of a plurality rotated attitudes and a foot peddle to release the catch, and wherein the foot lever is slidably received within a collar fixed for movement parallel to a longitudinal axis of the legs.

50. (Previously Presented) The wheeled chair of Claim 49, wherein the chair further comprises a steering mechanism adapted to turn at least one set of the wheels.

51. (Previously Presented) The wheeled chair of Claim 49, further comprising at least one brake engageable with at least one of the wheels.

52. (Previously Presented) The wheeled chair of Claim 49, further comprising a power source and a motor operable by a user of the wheeled chair.

53. (Previously Presented) The wheeled chair of Claim 49, further comprising a clutch co-operating with the motor so as to enable disengagement of the motor by the user.

54. (Previously Presented) The wheeled chair of Claim 49, further comprising one or two footrests.